

REMARKS

Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §103

Claims 68, 69, 71, 72 and 77 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Panescu et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,769,847) in view of Nashef et al. (U.S. Pat. 5,682,899).

Claims 61-63, 70 and 73-76 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Panescu et al. ('847) in view of Nashef et al. ('899) as detailed supra, and further in view of Littman et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,509,411).

Applicants have amended claims 62, 63, 68, 70, 71, 73 and 77 and added new claims 78 and 79 to include the limitation that two electrical conductors are embedded within a wall of the distal shaft section and electrically connected to at least one temperature sensor. The combination of references would not teach the features of these amended claims. Specifically, Panescu et al. calls for the electrical conductors that are secured to the temperature sensors to pass through the bore of the catheter and more specifically to be disposed within a tubular member (114) to insulate the electrical conductors from RF wires. See column 11, lines 61-65, column 12, lines 40-43 and column 13, lines 35-40. This would clearly negate any suggestion of combining the teachings of Littmann et al. with the teachings of Panescu et al. and Nasheff et al. as contended by the Examiner.

No new matter is introduced by the aforesaid amendments. Support for such amendments is found in the present specification as indicated in the attached Status and Support sheet attached hereto.

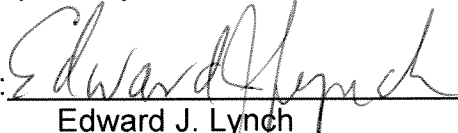
Response to Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-52, 54-60, and 64-67.

Conclusions

Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable further consideration pursuant to the concurrently filed RCE is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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